

THE PURDUE UNIVERSITY CALUMET CHRONICLE

Week of August 28, 2011

Vol. 31, Issue 2

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Nightmare on 173rd Street

Brandon Hayes
News Editor

The first week back at school can be fun, exciting and, as usual, a bit stressful. For students and University Village residents alike, "Welcome Back Week" was not only about surviving hectic schedules and homework, but also about the vehicles speeding in and out of campus parking lots.

At the intersection and campus entrance of 173rd Street, between the Fitness Center and the SUL Building, drivers have shown no love for pedestrians.

This intersection is not the only danger for students and civilians. Despite the recently refinished speed bumps in the parking lots, drivers can still be seen feverishly looking for parking spots and rushing out of the lots.

Regardless of the reason, moving violations involving pedestrians and vehicles resulted in 45 traffic tickets.

On Wednesday, approximately 33 tickets were written, and on Thursday, 12 more tickets were issued by both the PUC and



Photo: Brandon Hayes

While taking a photo illustration, a vehicle disregards pedestrian right of way and SGA Senator, Nathyn Gibson.

Hammond Police Departments. The penalty for failing to yield to pedestrians on campus and throughout Hammond is a \$250 fine issued by the city.

PUC Chief of Police Anthony Martin said that on Wednesday, several students and faculty

members complained that drivers were almost striking them as they crossed the street at 173rd Street.

"I did surveillance from my personal vehicle and observed at least two near misses, including people speeding out of the lot and turning without yielding to stu-

dents. Enforcement will continue until driving behavior improves," Martin said.

"When a student hits that button to cross and they step off

See 173rd page 4

Welcome Week festivities

Kyle Malec
Chronicle Correspondent

"Everything you do and everything you attend is part of your story. There are things you'll enjoy and things you won't want to do. Every opportunity you get is a gift, (so) treasure it and take advantage of these gifts. When you're given a chance at something, take it; you never know what that opportunity will lead you to in the future," State Rep-

resentative Linda Lawson said, as this year's Student Convocation got underway on Aug. 25.

She was one of several speakers that stressed the issue of seizing opportunities and realizing the possible opportunities all students have at PUC.

Within the panel, there were students, professors and alumni that shared their stories and perspectives. Listening to all the different voices presenting similar views on opportunities surround-

ing students at PUC proved to be motivational for all.

Many of the panelists discussed the importance of the growing international student population at the university. With more students coming in from other countries, their colleagues get the chance to view foreign perspectives and further their own critical thinking skills to help them for the future.

As the school continues to grow from an international standpoint, it is also growing from

within the borders of the United States. There are more students that are coming to PUC from other states, not just Northwest Indiana and parts of Illinois. Given the melting pot of locations representing the student population, classmates can offer different ways of thinking to local students.

Panelists also discussed the topic of experiential learning. As the university continues to prosper, more "hands on" learning approaches are becoming available. These types of classes offer students a chance to get real experience in their field of choice. Experiential learning courses give pupils more than just what they can expect from their field. It shows them what their field is, and serves as an internship-like approach to learning.

See Convocation page 4



Photo: Purdue University Calumet

He described his promotion as "a little overwhelming," but he assured he was trying to learn as much as he could in as little time as possible. By taking advice from those willing to give it, Punday said that the transition into his

See LASS page 4



Photo: Margaret Knutsen

Students walk through founders' plaza looking for all the cool activities, giveaways and free food offered during student convocation on Thursday, Aug 25.

Attention, Students!

Does Hurricane Irene or the fighting in Libya affect you or your family?

If so, we would like to share your story. Please send your contact info to Chronicle_managing_editor@yahoo.com



Jessie Martin
Student Body President

Greetings PUC Students! Whether you are a returning student or attending Purdue University Calumet for the first time, on behalf of the Student Government Association I welcome you. The 2011-2012 academic year brings with it many new opportunities and plenty of reasons for excitement. It is quite an extraordinary time in the history of PUC, and fairly special to be a student to have the opportunity to participate in it.

Many things are different from just a few months ago. We now have Chancellor Keon leading Purdue University Calumet, along with new interim Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Sarah Howard overseeing student affairs on campus. The SGA is looking forward to and excited to work collaboratively with both of these individuals to better the student experience at PUC.

For those that are unaware, the Student Government Association, often referred to as the SGA, is the official governance group of the student body here at Purdue University Calumet. When the administration, faculty or staff looks for input from students, they look to SGA. WE are the official voice of students on campus. We are organized into two different branches, the Executive Board and the Student Senate.

The Student Senate is made up of eight (8) Senators. Six (6) Senators who represent the six (6) different schools on campus and two (2) At-Large Senators, one (1) who represents the commuter students and one (1) who represents those that live at the University Village. The Student Senate is up for election each spring, and meets bi-weekly during the course of the year.

The Executive Board is made up of ten (10) members, (2) two of which are elected each spring by the student body as President and Vice President of the SGA. The remaining eight (8) make up the Executive Board and fulfill tasks deemed appropriate by the President. These positions are appointed annually upon approval from the Student Senate.

While both of these branches are filled at this point, we are very much in need of Representatives. There are officially 19 Representative positions in SGA, with the ability to expand if certain conditions are met. Representatives will sit on one of eight internal committees within the Student Senate. These committees, each chaired by a Senator, look at university-wide issues and offer recommendations to the Student Senate on how to correct these issues. In addition to sitting on these internal committees, we will invite them to sit on university-wide committees, such as the Traffic Appeals Board, Grade Appeals, Parking Policy Board, etc.

To apply for a Representative position, we encourage you to stop by the SGA office, SULB 324F, and fill out an application. Applications will be sent out on August 29th to all students via their student email, and will be available on the "Student Government Association - Purdue University Calumet" Facebook page. These positions are a great opportunity to get your feet wet in SGA and will provide you information that may even lead you to run for a position in the Spring 2012 elections!

The SGA, and myself included, are incredibly excited about the opportunities that lie ahead of us for the upcoming 2011-2012 year. The Student Government Association has made tremendous gains the past few years, and we are looking to build on these efforts to achieve some notable things on campus this year. We're also thrilled about continuing to lay the foundation for future members of SGA to have success.

I look forward to serving you all, the PUC student body, and wish you all the best this upcoming year!

~Jessie Martin, Student Body President

Paid for by the Student Government Association

What's Going On? A look around PUC...

MSA's Fast-A-Thon

Come help children of East Africa, Mon
Aug 29 at 7:15 - 8:15 p.m., SUL/CLO
Concourse

<http://blogs.purduecal.edu/ceo> or
call us at 773-236-7820

ATTENTION PURDUE STUDENTS!

If you own a business, even if it is a very small business, the PUC student club "Collegiate Entrepreneur Organization" [CEO] invites you to showcase your product/service at our next Call-Out meeting on

Thursday, September 15th, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. at Alumni Hall, Library Building 3rd Floor. This may be THE opportunity you have been waiting for to promote your product/service & to tell people about your business!

If interested, kindly e-mail your contact information including business name at ceopurduecal@gmail.com. For more information call 773-236-7820

RESERVE A TABLE TODAY!

The PUC student club "Collegiate Entrepreneur Organization" [CEO] invites you to our next

Call Out Meeting on Thursday, September 15, 2011, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. in the Alumni Hall Library Building, 3rd Floor

Please join us for refreshments and learn about how to get your business going. You would also have the opportunity to meet other students who already have their own business! For more information, please visit our website at

Anyone interested in publicizing events, organizations, clubs or departments in "What's Going On?" must submit briefs the Monday before publication. The Chronicle does not guarantee placement of briefs submitted.

Please limit submissions to four sentences and include the first and last name of the contact person.

Briefs may be submitted via e-mail at chronicle@calumet.purdue.edu or campus cc: mail - Chronicle or to the newsroom located in the Student Union and Library building, room 344H.

THE PURDUE UNIVERSITY CALUMET CHRONICLE

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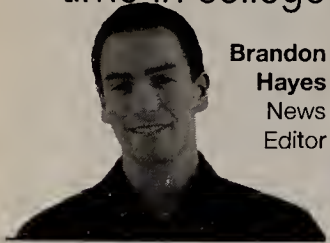
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Treasure your time in college



Brandon Hayes
News Editor

I often hear students complain how they are tired of being in school; burnt out on writing papers and listening to teachers who seem to repeat themselves day after day. When I graduated from high school I had no idea what I wanted to do with my life. I couldn't see myself enrolling in college at the time, because I had no money and didn't see the point in wasting my time on something I wasn't so sure about.

Because of my indecision, I ended up working for my aunt and uncle, who ran a construction business, laboring for Bricklayers and eventually becoming an apprentice. I worked there for over three and a half years, making endless batches of Mortar, carrying bricks up scaffolding and operating heavy equipment. It was a tough job; I worked 10 hours a day, seven days a week most of the time unless it rained. I even got injured quite often, adding to the physically demanding workload that makes my body hurt just thinking about it. After a few years of this, I decided that I really needed get back into school and better my future.

In 2008, I enrolled at Ivy Tech Community College and in 2010 I graduated with an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice. While studying at Ivy Tech, I soon realized the opportunities that were at hand. Just by being labeled a college student, my chances of getting a better job increased dramatically. I completed two Internships and spent many hours shadowing police officers. "It's a front row seat to the greatest show on earth," a police officer once told me, and he was right. I honestly feel like a person can learn more about life and even themselves in just a few hours spent patrolling the streets. You get to see the best and the worst of society. Those experiences changed my outlook on life and education in general.

I feel lucky to be here at PUC, because I have worked my hardest to get here. Besides receiving a few scholarships, which I am very grateful for, I have nearly paid my own way through the past three years as a college student.

What is the point to this you may be asking? I know that if I had not taken time for myself to have fun and just live life, that I surely would not appreciate my education as much as I do. I'm sure many others have similar stories, which may be more interesting than mine. But whenever school gets tough and I have five classes worth of homework, I ask myself, would I rather be working in 30 degree weather, pushing wheelbarrows through the snow, or would I rather be reading books and writing papers?

Readers can contact Brandon at chronicle_newseditor@yahoo.com or (219) 989-2547.



After Parking at PUC

THE PURDUE UNIVERSITY CALUMET CHRONICLE

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Dune Lorenz, Editor-in-Chief
Kayla Greenwell, Managing Editor
Brandon Hayes, News Editor
Brian Lynch, Entertainment Editor
Bill Koester, Sports Editor
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Rey Perez, Business Manager

Chartwells' polish fails to shine

The issue: CLO's Grab N Go remodeled for \$156,000, but fails to make with actual content.
Our stance: Unimpressed.

The CLO concourse has a brand new look. The Grab N Go has changed from a single counter with a few sandwiches to a fully-fledged coffee bar at the cost of \$156,000. This cost seems hefty for what comes down to a mere facelift, but other changes have been made to the Grab N Go as well.

Ken Johnston, vice chancellor for administrative services, made it known that the cost of the newly christened "Market @ CLO" was split halfway between PUC and Chartwells. This is the first real feedback Chartwells has given to students, aside from some minor menu changes, since their debut roughly 10 years ago.

Along with paying half of the large fee for their facelift, students who rush through CLO hoping to get some sort of substance between classes have less time management to worry about now. What was once the Grab N Go's scarce hours have now

been brought up to par with the rest of Chartwells' PUC dining establishments. Hours have been extended from a mere 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., so there is still plenty of time for students to stop by.

However, what the \$156,000 did not help was the menu. The visual aesthetic of the new coffee bar and shop may be more inviting, but the food remains mostly the same, aside from some new pastries and desserts. Even more glaring than the lack of new product are the relatively unchanged and expensive menu prices.

Four dollars for a sandwich lacking the tender loving care and cost efficiency of home does not leave much in the way of a student driving two minutes to Subway or Dunkin' Donuts for infinitely cheaper and more alluring meals.

If the food and the prices stay the way they do, it will be hard for Chartwells to pay off their \$78,000 debt if students are

flocking to other, cheaper places to buy their food between their classes.

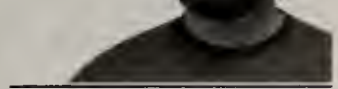
To the luck of Chartwells and dismay of students, however, is the fact that sometimes starving students only have miniscule amounts of time between their classes, inciting them to pay more money for mediocre food than to go without food at all.

Still, let this serve as a reminder that if students and staff are not happy with Chartwells, there are a variety of other options in the surrounding area, be it Dunkin' Donuts or the Woodmar Deli, or the numerous vending machines the campus has to offer for those unfortunate enough to only have a matter of minutes before class.

Students may be better off investing in a Spider-Man themed lunchbox and bringing the power of superb savings from home in style than to settle for anything they consider unsatisfactory.

Can the canned laughter

Brian Lynch
Entertainment Editor



There are so many issues concerning campus life that need to be addressed. The abysmal parking situation. The overly complicated school website. Tuition hikes.

Instead, I'm going to complain about sitcom laugh tracks.

I was watching television the other day, which happens sometimes, and I came across a random sitcom on CBS. I'd heard good things about this show, so I decided to give it a chance. However, after watching it for only a few minutes the laugh track became unbearable.

For those of you mercifully unaware, a laugh track is separate audio track containing laughter, typically used in situation comedy shows. The intent is to simulate the sound of a live crowd laughing whenever a character or situation would normally elicit that reaction.

That's right; laugh tracks exist solely to tell the audience when something is funny.

Laughter is one of the most basic aspects of being human. We can do it from a few months old (though it's probably just gas) until the moment we die. It can happen in an instant, no matter the circumstances. Sometimes, it can't even be contained. We certainly don't need a robot telling us when to do it. Humor doesn't work that way.

Now, to be fair, this problem isn't across the board. Many networks such as NBC have long since abandoned the laugh track system, and I really feel their shows are better for it. There is nothing stepping over the actor's lines, no canned laughter being played after every single joke and no assumption that every line of dialogue is hilarious just because it was intended to make people laugh. It's a far less patronizing experience, overall.

The minute you have to explain why something is funny, that thing stops being funny. The same can be said for laugh tracks. They cheapen the overall experience. Imagine if other types of shows used similar tactics. John Locke is murdered by Ben Linus, and all the audience hears is dozens of disembodied sobs. Creepy, right? Or how about an episode of "Law & Order" where vital evidence is being shouted by an unseen crowd. It would be like an episode of "Dora the Explorer," but with an arson trial thrown in.

My point is, people are smart. Beyond that, they don't need anyone or anything telling them when to laugh. If something is funny, genuinely funny, people will laugh. It really is as simple as that. Maybe some of these shows should stop worrying about telling us when to laugh, and focus on giving us a reason to laugh.

COMMENTS?

Write to us and see your thoughts in print!
The Chronicle Editorial Policy

The views expressed in submitted commentaries and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of The Chronicle or Purdue University Calumet. The Chronicle is not an official publication of Purdue University Calumet. The Chronicle welcomes reader input. Letters and commentaries must include the writer's name, class standing or other affiliation and a telephone number for verification. The more concise the letter, the better chance of publication. All materials submitted to The Chronicle become the property of The Chronicle. The Chronicle reserves the right to edit for clarity, accuracy, space and news style. Deadline for submissions is the Friday before the publication.

Readers can contact Brian at chronicle_entertainment@yahoo.com or (219) 989-2547.

CLO Grab N Go gets a new look



The newly remodeled CLO Grab N Go opened for the public Aug. 22 to offer new integrations of walking through and allowing students to choose their own food.

Kali Porzel
Staff Writer

Walking into the Classroom Office Building, students and faculty will notice the newly renovated and recently opened CLO Grab N Go. Over the summer, renovations were made to improve the quality of service that is experienced. The Grab N Go has made a complete 180 in regards to style, atmosphere and overall impression, to the point where Chartwells has renamed it the "Market @ CLO."

Instead of simply walking through a line and telling someone an order, students and faculty are able to enter and pick their drinks or snacks from a varied selection. The lines are now inside the Market @ CLO instead of along the windows in CLO.

The cost of renovation was totaled at \$156,000.00. Ken Johnston, vice chancellor for administrative services, said he wants it to be known that the cost is being split between Chartwells and PUC per their previous agree-

ments. The total cost is also subject to change due to in-the-process business transactions that are occurring.

The bakery selection is diverse. Students and faculty can get muffins, homemade cookies, bagels, cr me horns, devil dogs and much more. Starbucks coffee is offered hot and cold as well. The staff manning the Market @ CLO is also very friendly and helpful to everyone who enters.

Students that have been able to experience the new Market @ CLO have been amazed at the transformation that has occurred. The change has allowed more students to get through CLO without getting caught up in the long lines that used to come from the old design.

Now customers who want to buy a refreshment or snack can simply walk through, instead of having to be waited upon.

Carolina Hernandez, sociology criminal justice and Spanish major, said she is excited that the Market @ CLO is an open area because now students will not be stopped by the crowded area due

to the long lines. "It's cool, modern and more convenient," Hernandez said.

Akshath Phillips, sophomore electrical engineering major was amazed at the renovations that were made to the Market @ CLO over the summer.

"Yes, [I] extremely love it! [It's] very attractive!" Phillips commented. He also mentioned how he felt that the renovation was definitely beneficial to the food services offered at PUC.

Diane Wisniewski, retail director for Chartwell's, was unable to respond to questions about the renovations and improvements to the Grab N Go at the time of printing.

The cost for renovation seems high but the Grab N Go has become a more student friendly snack stop than before with its rebirth as the Market @ CLO. This upgrade will be beneficial to students and faculty in the future because there will be no waiting in a long line to simply get a coffee and sandwich.

173rd

continued from page 1

that sidewalk, drivers who are turning are supposed to wait until after the students have passed," he added.

Aside from municipal fines, interim dean of students Gloria Roldan said that students would not have academic penalties. However, they may receive charges under the regulations governing student conduct.

Most students who were questioned said they felt safe at the 173rd Street crossing because of the walk signal and the "bird-like" chirping sound that rings when pedestrians have the right-of-way.

Brandon Fles, a public relations major and UV resident, feels strongly about the impatient drivers.

"I think it serves them right. The traffic lights aren't just put there to look pretty. Not only that, but signs are posted as clear as day to let the drivers know that the pedestrians have the right-of-way," Fles said.

Chief Martin said that not only is the PUC police in cooperation with the Hammond Police Department, but all PUC officers are sworn Lake County Sheriff's Deputies. He added that his department is always looking to increase the visibility of his officers and the safety of campus.

On October 12, PUC will host the traditional "Chancellor's Annual Campus Safety Walk." The walk will feature Chancellor Keon, the university police, members of the PUC Senior Leadership Team and other faculty. The goal is to find anything which may pose a threat to the campus community. Students are encouraged to participate.

For more information regarding Indiana traffic laws and pedestrian control signals visit:
<http://www.in.gov/legislative/ic/code/title9/ar21/ch17.html>

LASS

continued from page 1

new position was much less jarring than it could have been.

"A lot of the work department heads do is invisible and not very glamorous," he said when asked to describe some of the new tasks he's been charged with.

Things such as scheduling classes to work for most, if not all, students fall on the department heads, and Punday feels that it is probably the most important task for the heads of department.

When asked about his plans for the future of the English and Philosophy Department, Punday said simply that "good heads try to let the faculty of the department direct what the department does."

After a minor pause, the professor continued by saying he would like to focus on the graduate program here at PUC.

"The graduate program is a really big part of not just our department, but also the university because our grad students teach [English] 104 and 105. Everybody goes to those classes, so it's

a big part of the university," Punday said.

He believes that the English graduate program should be an area of focus and that growth in the program should be heavily encouraged.

Karen Bishop-Morris, director of the PUC Writing Center, described Punday as a very thoughtful and intellectual person, but that his intellect does not stop him from being easy-going and approachable. She stated that while working with him, he gives you a sense that he wants to gather everyone's opinions and be an informed administrator.

When asked about his work ethic, Bishop-Morris exclaimed, "Tireless!" She further expanded on her exclamation by saying that Punday is very energetic when he is working and that he uses this energy to probe into a situation to figure it out. According to her, Punday "hit the ground running" in the department's first meeting.

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Criminal Justice Club dedicated to community outreach



Photo: Facebook

Members of the Criminal Justice Club; TK Lee, Wala Issa, Jess Tabor, Dr. Nicky Jackson, and Ashley Kistinger

Andrea Drac
Staff Writer

Developing a community of students was the main goal of Associate Professor of Criminal Justice, Nicky Jackson when she created the PUC Criminal Justice Club in 1990.

"I recognized upon coming to this campus that students, even in the same programs, had no clue who sat next to them! I wanted to change that," Jackson said.

"A major part of college life is making friends, networking with faculty and feeling like part of a team." The primary purpose of the club is for students on our campus to become acquainted with each other."

CJC President and criminal justice major Jess Tabor elaborated, saying Jackson's goal was to get a student community together and go out and help others in the community and on campus.

"We are community oriented," Tabor said, who recently became CJC President this fall

and has been a member for three years.

Jackson said one of the CJC's main goals is to help the community in any way they possibly can.

One of the biggest events CJC does for the community and one Tabor says they are continuing this year is the Haven House Drive. They will collect diapers, stuffed animals and anything needed for the less fortunate.

Tabor also has other ideas for events, such as movie nights, games nights and possibly a golf outing.

Events and event planning are both big topics during CJC meetings.

"At our meetings we discuss events we are going to put on ourselves and plan events that will benefit the community," Tabor said.

She said the group also talks about school and plans social events and group outings.

"We hang out all the time," she said of her club members.

"We are a very tight knit group and are very close friends."

Jackson can also see the closeness between the members of the club she created.

"I have watched many classmates befriend each other; help each other with careers, and maintain lifelong friendships," said Jackson.

Tabor said you do not have to be a criminal justice major to be a part of the CJC. The club is open to any PUC student from any major, background, etc. Jackson says the CJC is also open to alumni students.

As far as goals for the CJC for the new school year go, Tabor said she wants to focus more on community outreach.

"(We want to) put on events and volunteer events that will help build character," she said.

Jackson is proud of all her students.

"I adore my students and love all their energy and enthusiasm," said Jackson. "I am very blessed with such great students."

If anyone is interested in joining PUC's Criminal Justice Club or have any general questions about it, email CJC president Jess Tabor at jmtabor@purduecal.edu.

Convocation

continued from page 1

Aside from the speeches, the Student Convocation showcased an array of festive activities that students could enjoy. If a person did not want to listen to alumni and other knowledgeable people talk about success and choices, they could still go for all the free stuff offered at the event, including food and other goodies.



Photo: Margaret Knutsen

Fright Night 'sucks'

Kayla Greenwell
Managing Editor

"Fright Night" is a remake of the 1985 slasher, but with less gore and more bore. The film holds itself back from its true potential and because of that the audience cannot take the film seriously.

"Fright Night" starts out in a place anyone would find terrifying: a neighborhood in suburbia. The young Charlie Brewster and his mother live in this cookie cutter wonderland and are curious about their new neighbor Jerry (Colin Farrell) who turns out to be a heartless, cutthroat vampire. Charlie seeks the help of Peter Vincent (David Tennant), a magician and "vampire expert," to save the people he cares about.

Although the movie was filmed in 3-D, two-thirds of the film revolves around Charlie snooping around trying to catch Jerry in any sort of act of Vampirism. The pacing is far too slow for this movie to even be in 3-D. Two

hours of being dizzy just to see a vampire explode and the ashes come out at you is not worth the three extra dollars and the stylish 3-D glasses.

One special affect that was well done with or without 3-D was Jerry's (Farrell) "Vampire form." While Vampire movies are still coming at the Hollywood audience like a hurricane wind, "Fright Night's" vampire is far from stereotypical. Instead of making Jerry's real form brooding, dark and sexy he is cold and heartless and his true form is a real monster that can send a sense of uneasiness even through the most iron willed watcher.

Farrell's portrayal of this cold-hearted beast, however, did not live up to the visual. Farrell was shooting for odd, intimidating and horrifying and what he ended up hitting most of all was awkward. Throughout the whole film he is almost hostile towards Charlie, so it is hard to believe that

See Fright page 9



blackfilm.com

Purdue Theatre Company announces a world premiere

DREAMLAND

Written by John Lisbon Wood
Featuring songs by Academy Award nominee Tevin Thomas ("Raise It Up" from August Rush)
Time: Tulsa, OK 1921
Auditions: Sept 1, 5-7pm, Sept 2, Sept 9 2011, 2-4 pm, YJean Chambers Hall, 3rd floor SULB
Show dates: Nov 19, 20, 26, 27, 30, Dec 2, 3
Cast: 9-13 Diverse Actors/Singers
Contact Director Corya Channing 989-2267 or 989-2357 channing@purduecal.edu

All students, parents, faculty & staff are welcome!

BACK TO SCHOOL SATURDAY

September 24, 2011

Family Friendly Activities – 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Enjoy live entertainment, games, children's activities, athletics, campus tours, a picnic and more!

Alumni Reunions and Dessert Reception (open to all) – 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Meet our new Chancellor, Thomas Keon and reconnect with alumni and faculty at reunions for years 2001, 1991, 1981, 1971, 1961 as well as ALL past basketball alumni hosted at our magnificent White Lodging Center for Hospitality and Tourism Management. PLUS... drawings for PUC give-aways!

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entertainment by Nicole Jamrose

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'Less' is more

Bill Koester
Sports Editor

August is generally thought of as the time that the movies start to slow down. As kids head back to school, Hollywood ends its run of expensive summer blockbusters and often starts putting out cheaper fare.

"30 Minutes or Less" fits into such a mold pretty well. The film is a mere 80 minutes, and has little in the way of real production values, as if it was shot on an old camcorder in the suburbs instead of any Hollywood set. It would be

easy to write off as a sub-par piece of work typical to this time of year.

However, the movie is just too hilarious to do so. Despite everything that it seemingly has going against it, this is easily the funniest picture of the summer.

In the film, middle-aged slacker Dwayne (Danny McBride) lives with his military martinet father (Fred Ward). Sick of the way he is treated by his father, Dwayne and his sidekick Travis (Nick Swardson), come up with a way to solve the problems: hire a hit man to kill his father so that he will inherit his fortune.

To gather the money to pay for the hit, the two come up with an even more boneheaded scheme: kidnap slacker pizza boy Nick (Jesse Eisenberg), strap a bomb to him and force him to rob a bank in exchange for the code to deactivate the device. (As lame and implausible as this plan sounds, it actually bears striking resemblance to a real incident that occurred in 2003). They do just that and soon, Nick is off to the races, with his best friend Chet (Aziz Ansari) tagging along.

McBride and Swardson's characters are so stupid that it is a huge wonder any of their plans

See More page 9

Highs and Lows of Ramencon's debut



Photo Recived from Facebook.com

Ryan Motkowski (left) and Tomas Ortega (right) pose for a picture in cosplay.

Dante Vidal Silguero
Chronicle Correspondent

The Midwest has no shortage of anime conventions. Anime Central, Crossroads, Milwaukee and No Brand Con are all well-established anime conventions in the region. Chris Kaemerer is a self-proclaimed anime addict, but after years of attending these big-

ger cons he felt as if he and his fellow con-goers' concerns and complaints were not being answered.

Overpopulation became the biggest concern for Anime Central attendees in 2011, and this concern was made all the more troublesome as the convention was packed with guest speakers, vendors and artists. This made walking through the convention a

chore for anyone, especially those clad in bulky, delicate or elaborate costumes. Despite complaints from many of the attendees, Kaemerer said in an interview, "Nothing was being changed. It seemed [the convention heads] were more interested in their pocketbooks than in the convention attend-

See Ramencon page 9



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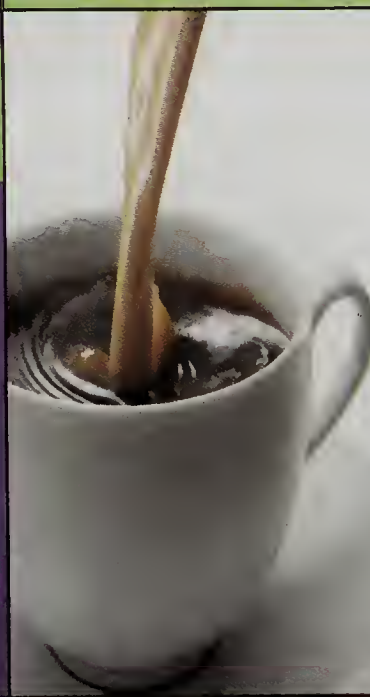
Mon. Aug. 29

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The many faces of a chimp

Jessica Gerlich

Chronicle Correspondent

Years ago, people did not expect to watch hundreds of chimpanzees storm the Golden Gate Bridge, taking no prisoners and letting no man get in their way, on the silver screen. The breathtaking images of CGI apes are combined with (mostly) mediocre performances by well-known actors in "Rise of the Planet of the Apes."

James Franco plays Will Rodman, a scientist desperately trying to find a cure for Alzheimer's disease, by testing his treatments on chimpanzees. After a failed attempt to sway investors for funding, Rodman "temporarily" takes home a genetically-enhanced baby chimp. Temporary turns into long-term when Rodman's father Charles (John Lithgow) falls in love with the chimp, who the two name Caesar. Coincidentally, Caesar grows up feeling like neither man nor ape. Things take a wild turn when Caesar is put in an enclosed environment with other primates, and eventually leads the ape revolution.

Andy Serkis' (Gollum in "Lord of the Rings") performance

as Caesar the over-intelligent chimpanzee can only be described as moving. Motion capture technology allows Serkis' movements and expressions to be displayed in the CGI Caesar, which shows the viewer a display of emotion never seen in an animal on screen or in reality. Viewers dig deep into Caesar's thoughts and feelings, and it is all because of facial expression. The other actor who stands out above the rest is Lithgow in his portrayal of Rodman's Alzheimer's-ridden father. Lithgow makes it impossible not to feel for this slowly deteriorating man.

Sadly, not all the actors were as heart-wrenching (or even interesting) to watch as Serkis and Lithgow. Franco is hardly believable as a renowned scientist developing cures to worldwide diseases. His veterinary girlfriend Caroline is played by Frieda Pinto, who audiences may remember from the 2008 Best Picture "Slumdog Millionaire." Pinto is gorgeous to look at but unfortunately does not have enough material to really show her acting prowess.

The beauty of CGI apes interacting with each other is far more interesting to look at than most of



hollywoodreporter.com

the human performance in this movie. Though the CGI chimps are completely different than the original 1968 apes, the difference is well worth it. The lifelike qualities of these perfect ape/human-like creatures make this revolution almost real.

"Rise of the Planet of the Apes" feels a bit like a public service announcement on animal cruelty with its effervescent images of animal testing (and the dangers of it), caged chimps and ani-

mal mistreatment. However, this echoes the original "Planet of the Apes" in a way. The underlying qualities of the 1968 film make evident that humans did not deserve the planet they had destroyed, so it seems public service announcements are part of a theme.

When mesmerized by computer graphics, the relatively predictable plot and sometimes dull performances do not take away the thrill of watching these enhanced primates rush the Golden

Gate Bridge. The final pan of the camera on the Redwood Forest with Caesar and his counterparts looking out from the tallest trees is an epic foreshadowing of what is to come on the "planet of the apes."

"Rise of the Planet of the Apes" receives a 7 out of 10.

Final Destination 5: let's reach it already

Bernadette Bowen

Chronicle Correspondent

Adrenaline is a hormone produced by the adrenal gland in the body of many animals. It is naturally produced in high-stress or physically exhilarating situations, and causes the commonly used "fight or flight" phenomenon.

Watching "Final Destination 5," it is very clear the film's director Steven Quale has not only studied up on the way to go about teasing this hormone into a frenzy, he is also knowledgeable of the goings on of vapid young adults.

The film begins with a group of coworkers riddled with an assortment of unattractive personal characteristics going on a company retreat. The group includes hopeless romantic Sam Lawton (Nicholas D'Agosto) who dreams of a chef apprenticeship in Paris, his arrogant best friend, Peter (Miles Fisher), Peter's girlfriend/intern with the company, Candice (Ellen Wroe) and a catty bombshell, Olivia (Jacqueline MacInnes Wood). Also along for the

trip are Molly Harper (Emma Bell) who breaks up with Sam just before the trip for unknown reasons, Peter's misogynistic co-worker, Isaac (P.J. Byrne) and a struggling paper factory worker named Nathan (Arlen Escarpe-

ta.)The group is led by their boss Dennis Lapman (David Koechner, better known to audiences as Champ from "Anchorman"), the only one even remotely famous enough to be worth recognizing in the group.

As far as the plot, Eric Heisserer, the film's screenwriter, followed the distinguishable order interchangeably used throughout the entire series: the premonition, the life-saving event, the deaths in order (including, of course, most

of the contenders trying to cheat death by taking another life instead of their own, after figuring out the order,) and, naturally, the stock obvious ending. As anyone who has seen any of the previous installments of the series

could predict, the murders by fate do inevitably include an array of bizarre elements. Including, but not limited to, electricity and water combinations, broken glass and of course impalement via construction odds and ends.

Just as prior "Final Destination" fans would presume, the formations of the actual assassinations themselves are completely absurd. Clearly, the priority of their budget was centered on truckfuls of silicone body parts and gallons upon gallons of fake blood and guts, and not on the actors. Fortunately, most of the characters still managed to be more convincing than soap opera stars, but just barely.

As far as special effects are concerned, overall they appeared more well-designed and higher



hollywoodreporter.com

See Final page 9

Fright

continued from page 6

his mother would actually consider Jerry to be a good guy when his character is so obviously off.

The antithesis to Farrell was Tennant, who plays Peter Vincent, a magician much like Criss Angel, but perhaps more obnoxious. Tennant is well known and beloved

in the UK for playing the tenth doctor on this insanely popular Doctor Who series, and did not let American audiences down by playing a humorously believable side character. Tennant does a lot to add to the story line, and because of his "expertise" on vampires, Charlie is able to learn more



shocktillyoudrop.com

about Jerry and the fight pursues. Although Tennant's character Peter is not a main character, the film would have been completely one dimensional and not even worth the time or the money without him.

Overall the film was a bore, but there were a few moments in the film that make the show worth seeing, at least on DVD.

"Fright Night" receives a 4 out of 10.

More

continued from page 7



filmofilia.com

even get off the ground. Eventually, their escapades become so silly and unbelievable that even the most highbrow viewer will eventually just go with the flow and laugh at their antics.

Eisenberg is adequate as the straight man in the picture, but Ansari is the one who ultimately steals the show. His wisecracking is the thing that brings the picture back down to earth when it starts

to lose focus. It is like the character knows he is in a movie and is playing along with the audience.

Overall, the picture is a pretty short affair, and ends rather abruptly without really reaching a satisfying conclusion. Then again, this might not be such a bad thing, as the film would be pushing it if it ran much longer.

"30 Minutes or Less" refers to the guaranteed delivery time

of Eisenberg's character's pizza parlor, which he has trouble living up to, so an appropriate analogy would be that the movie is like getting cheap pizza delivered late on a Friday night. It may not be the greatest thing ever, but it sure is better than going with nothing at all.

"30 Minutes or Less" receives 7 out of 10.



filmofilia.com

Ramencon

continued from page 7

Ramencon, as he put it, "...a convention for the attendees by the attendees."

For a first year convention, Ramencon certainly showed a lot of potential, but it also showed the growing pains any major event will go through in its first years. In the same room as the registration table was the "Artists' Alley," as it is called, featuring twelve artists and their various creations. The next room over housed vendors selling wares from anime videos, music, manga and clothing; Japanese snack-foods such as Pocky and panda cookies; and gothic clothing and accessories.

At 4:30 on Friday a panel was scheduled to begin titled "Wild Game Show." After forty-five minutes of waiting and watching the stage-hands set up and another fifteen minutes of a boring host named Zach telling jokes that always fell flat, and were just plain insulting when they should have been humorous jabs at the audience, the "game show" finally began much to the audience's disliking.

A major problem with most other anime conventions according to Kaemerer is that many panels' and guest speakers' time slots would conflict with one another,



nwtimes.com

forcing fans to choose between one or the other. Despite this statement there were plenty of conflicts in the scheduling of Ramencon's panels. The Godzilla panel was scheduled from 10:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. on Friday, cutting into The Quest's time slot of 9:50 p.m. to 11:50 p.m.

Robert Axelrod, the voice actor for "Power Ranger's" Lord Zedd character, had an autograph session that ran at the same time

as Travis Willingham's, the voice actor for "Fullmetal Alchemist's" Colonel Roy Mustang, speaking panel. The costume contest also ran into the Masquerade Ball's time. None of this is helped by the fact that the convention program was poorly organized and riddled with countless spelling, grammar and information errors. Kaemerer assured that if Ramencon were to continue next year he would "...have a team of PUC English ma-

jors oversee the booklet one-hundred percent all the way through."

To make matters worse, the convention was not allowed by the hotel to host a proper ramen vendor because of its policy of not allowing outside food to be sold in the hotel, and the only ramen available was "forced" upon the concessions booth by Kaemerer because "Ramencon has to have ramen!"

Despite its minor and moderate shortcomings, Ramencon played host to over 1000 attendees the weekend of Aug 19. With attendance so large for a first year con, it is safe to say another Ramencon may be seen at the end of next summer as well.

When asked why students at PUC should give the next Ramencon a visit, Josh Bonneville, a CIT major, said "You gotta do this. It's a whole experience. It's so awesome."

If given another year or two to work out the kinks, the tiny Ramencon may be able to hold its own against the mega conventions such as Anime Central, so long as they plan the panels a bit more carefully and get someone else to do next year's programs.

Final

continued from page 8

definition than the rest of the installments' wreckage and explosions. The aspects of some of the elaborate deaths will definitely make audiences second guess their probabilities, but again, that compliments the anticipations of the series.

The real singular difference between this and the first four is the 3-D factor. Oh 3-D, at one time you were promised as a fulfilling cinematic experience, but what happened? Curse you, Real3D, turning your enticing product into an overused lady of the night!

Nevertheless, the 3-D element was used more appropriately than in most 3-D horror films from the past few years. It actually did not feel like the effect was encroaching on theater-goers personal space as much as some 3-D films have done in the past, and it is refreshing to not have to play an instinctive game of removing the glasses periodically for fear of being injured. The effect was simply used as an experience enhancer, as it is optimistic to assume it was meant to be.

All in all, watching "Final Destination 5" was exactly the same as watching any of the others in the series, except this time they threw entrails and everything else at your face.

"Final Destination 5" receives a 5 out of 10.

For more information about Ramencon and to keep up to date on the convention's future developments, visit www.facebook.com/ramencon

FRC

continued from page 12

paying the university service's fees, took notice and requested that they receive access to the gym that it became an official part of the school.

As far as changes go, both former AD John Friend and Bobalik would agree that it is night and day.

"Everything is state-of-the-art: from the quality of the machines, to the amount of space, to the access of a professional who can help train you with your fitness goals," Friend said.

Bobalik added, "When we first started, we had a 'super circuit system.' That included three treadmills, 11 machines and 11

bikes. Today, it is an academic laboratory."

As far as the celebrations go, there will be a ceremony in the SUL Building on Monday, Sept. 26 at 6 p.m. Of the 50 members from the aforementioned employee "pilot" group, 20 are still working at the school or working out in the gym. This ceremony will serve as an honor to them and their dedication to health that the university benefits from today.

"(Enrollment) increases every year, and more and more students are interested in health and wellness, which is what you want," Bobalik said.

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Cross Country teams set to begin their first season

Bill Koester
Sports Editor

When starting any program from scratch, there are bound to be some birthing pains. This is a fact that PUC men's and women's cross country coach Matt Bliss knows all too well.

The former assistant coach at Griffith High School and runner at Ball State University was hired last December and tasked to put a team together for this fall. However, he has faced quite a few obstacles, as the team leads up to its inaugural season.

Since January, Bliss and the athletic department have organized a callout to current PUC students via emails and signs around campus. Since this will be the first season, there were no real requirements that students had to meet, save for the recommendation of some running experience.

"(Recruiting) is the most difficult part," said Bliss. "I'm kind of learning as I go."

Attracting new students was another challenge because most nearby high schools were wrapping up their cross country seasons by the time Bliss was hired. Fortunately, he was able to attend some track meets in the area to convince a few graduating runners to come run at PUC, or to join the team since they were already enrolled.

"I would be running even if there wasn't a team (at PUC)," freshman Stephen Bajzatt said.

"I ran all through high school," freshman Kristen Stapay said. "I was looking specifically to run in college."

Bliss is still trying to get the word out to attract more people to

the team, particularly women, as the women's team currently does not have a full squad. Those that are already on the team, though, have dove right into practice.

A typical practice starts with a 2-mile warm-up run from the Fitness Center to Morton High School. Once there, the team stretches a bit before running timed intervals of one lap around the track, then two, three and four laps before going back down again (one lap around the track is equivalent to 1/4 of a mile). They are only allowed short breaks in between runs on top of everything.

"This is the first time they've practiced at this level of competition," said Bliss. "I'm getting them into shape physically as well as mentally."

At the end of the laps, most team members are soaked with sweat, but another two miles back to PUC awaits them for a cool-down run. Through such grueling challenges, however, many of their times stay consistent even as they run more. Some even have better times as they go along.

"I feel really good," said Stapay after practice. "It was a hard workout. It was a challenge, but a good challenge."

PUC freshman Fernando Pina added, "I think I did good on my first day."

When the season starts, the men's team will run an 8k run, and the women's team will run 5k. The teams will find out if their tough practices will pay off when their first meet, the Midwest Classic in Bourbonnais, IL, takes place on Sept. 9.



Photo Provided

The first PUC fitness center only consisted of a few stationary bikes and a couple other machines when it was originally started in 1986 at the Hammond Civic Center.

Intra

continued from page 11

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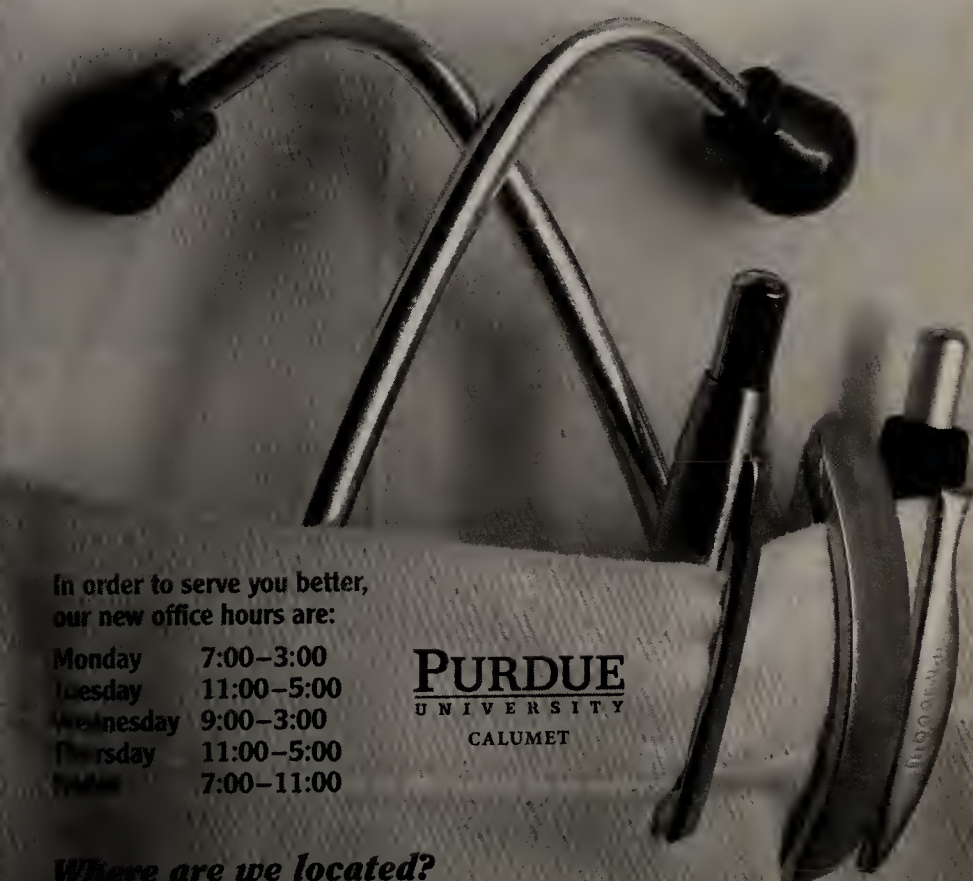
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Jacob Arredondo
Staff Writer

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See Intra page 10

Tee time approaches for PUC men's golf

Julie Sipek
Staff Writer

Even the most successful teams would be wise to take advantage of their time during the offseason to work on improving and building their programs. Although the PUC men's golf team could not officially start practice until Aug. 14, head coach Matt Meneghetti has been hard at work improving his roster by acquiring several new golfers.

The men's golf team won their conference in its inaugural season last year. Since then, the squad members have made some new additions to help drive them toward victory once again. Meneghetti signed Rick Gayda, Aaron Mercer, Charlie Sawyer and Mat Bowenn to play for him this coming season.

"These guys have talent and promise, and I expect a lot from this team," Meneghetti said.

While it can be dangerous to mess with success, Meneghetti does not foresee any problems with throwing the new guys into the mix.

"I kind of look at last year's players, and I mold their personalities and the way that they play with the guys I recruit," Meneghetti said.

The returning players seem excited about their new teammates as well.

"They all seem like nice guys and very good golfers," sophomore Danny Johnson said of his new teammates.

New members coming to the team is not the only thing that excites everyone. It has been a long offseason, and Meneghetti and his players are all ready to just get the season underway.

"They are all antsy," Meneghetti said of his team. "They want to get out there and play and build off of last year."

Luckily, the team does not have to wait much longer. The men will participate in their first event, the St. Francis Fall Invitational, on Aug. 29 and 30 in Kendallville, IN, and hopes are high for the success of this team.

"I expect victory," Meneghetti said. "I am confident that the five guys that will compete will give a solid performance."

Johnson shares his coach's enthusiasm and confidence.

"We will finish toward the top of the leader board," he said.

The St. Francis Fall Invitational is the first of several meets this season that the black and gold hope to finish with a victory.

Vball

continued from page 12



Photo: Nathryn Gibson

PUC's Catherine Yoder battles against Ancilla College's Natasha Ware during Monday's scrimmage. Women's Volleyball will host Robert Morris on Sept. 6 at 7 p.m. in a Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference game.

It is promising sentiments like these that give the team hope in a season of redemption. The ladies are looking to establish an identity while catching up to more developed programs in peer universities. When asked if this team is better than the previous squad, Hauter responded, "Most definitely! We have a few more recruits in every position, which gives plenty more competition within ourselves. Everyone is pushing for that spot on the court."

Frebis added, "We have gotten closer as a team, and we have awesome recruits who will be big assets to our team."

Prior to the team's first official match against IUSB on Aug. 25, both girls were in agreement that a different mindset is needed this year.

"We are playing a team that doesn't have a lot of experience, so it will be a good test to see if we will play up at our level," Frebis said of IUSB. "It will be a good game, and hopefully, we will play

like we can and come out with a big win."

Hauter said, "We want to come out strong and keep it the whole game."

The test proved to be a thrilling one, as PUC would overcome deficits in its final two sets to seal the deal in the final frame and start the season 1-0.

The team returns to action on Aug. 29 when it plays at Goshen.

If only they could see us now

Jacob Arredondo
Staff Writer

This often-heard motto can serve as an anthem for a younger, more health-oriented generation shaping on the world's forefront. The media have picked up on the movement with the creation of television shows, obstacle courses and an all-time high focus on sports apparel, among other things.

Not lost in this message are the gyms where people change their lives, and for the past 25 years, the Fitness Center at PUC has been no different.

Originally a hole-in-the-wall auxiliary gym without much promise of a future, PUC's Fitness Center is now a state-of-the-art "fitness laboratory" that houses the necessary equipment to improve the overall health and wellness of an ever-growing school population. At the center of all this is the story of a select few who fought for a better life.

"The gym first started with a pilot group. The chancellor at the time wasn't a big fan of the project of turning the old auxiliary gym into a fitness center," PUC Fitness Center Director John Bobalik said.



Photo Provided

One of the original weight rooms which was located in what is now an office in the ever expanding fitness center.

Despite this initial resistance, this "pilot" group of 50 staff members continued on, and, through their perseverance, was

successful in keeping the gym going. But it was not until Aug. 18, 1986 when students, who were

See FRC page 10

All geared up

PUC volleyball kicks off season



Photo: Nathyn Gibson

Catherine Yoder and Jordan Ashburn try to stop the ball from coming to their side during Monday's scrimmage.

Jacob Arredondo
Staff Writer

The volleyball team is all geared up and ready to rock. Coming off a difficult inaugural season, the team members have high hopes as they set their sights on their sophomore campaign as a program, looking to reset the tone and reestablish an identity.

In the team's scrimmage on Aug. 22, the ladies were looking toward success. Unfortunately, the scrimmage against Ancilla proved to be quite challenging for the team, as it would ultimately

fall four sets to none. The scores, though, were much closer than last year, with the team not losing a set by more than seven. Last year, that would have been hard to come by.

"The scrimmage went well, and we have totally turned our team around from last year," junior Maria Frebis said. "We still can improve overall, but this year, we will be successful."

PUC junior Savannah Hauter added, "By the third and fourth (period), we had a great lineup and everyone came together."

See Vball page 11

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